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COUNTRY

Poland

DATE:

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SUBJECT

Ports of Danzig and Gdynia;

INFO.

XXX May 1947

Polish Import-Export Trade

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Review

- The coal docks of the firm "Progress" with its installations at Gdynia were completely demolished and those along the port railway station, opposite the "French coast", were burned down. The damage was estimated at 60% of the facilities of the port as a whole. Breakwaters were mined by the Germans. Ships now enter and leave by an outer gate to and from the port. The Soviets raised a 10,000 ton merchant ship which they are still repairing. According to an agreement between the Soviets and the Provisional Polish Government all ships on and under the water in all Polish ports, which were not Poland's before the war are considered Soviet property.
- Shipping traffic in the port of Danzig is concentrated at the Nowy Port (New Port) near the coal docks known as "Trojan" and at the coal docks of the former "Alldag". Because of broken bridges and heavy wreckage other docks cannot now be used.
- The Polish government representative for reconstruction of the coast is well known engineer, Eugeniusz Kwiatkowski, pre-war Minister of the Treasury. His assistant is a former Senator Sokol. Their offices in Danzig are located in ul. Wojewodzka. Ports are being rebuilt by a government agency known as "B.C.P." (Biuro Odbudowy Portow -- Port Reconstruction Office). The head office is in Wrzeszcz with branch offices in Gdynia, Danzig, Stettin and Swinemande. Kwiatkowski is also head of "ZSP" (Zjednoczenie Stoczni Polskich - Associated Polish Shipyards) in Wrzeszcz. It handles the administration of five shipyards.
- The Ministry of Navigation and Foreign Commerce created the ZZP (Zjednoczenie Przedsieblorstw Portowych --- Association of Port Enterprises) for port services. The main office is in Wrzeszcz, at Ulica Wojska Polskiego 20. This agency founded such other government agencies as the Polska Banders (Polish Flag) which serves as an expediting branch; Polski Bunker, which supplies coal and fuel for all ports; Baltika, a sort of brokerage for the ports; Balton, a shiphandling establishment, and Dec Cloria for corn elevators. These agencies have local branch offices, under government supervision, in all ports. Nearly all private companies dealing with shipping and transport have been dissolved. Competition with the government agencies is discouraged. In October 1946

the government establishment "Polska Bunker" a deficit of 15,000,000 Zlotys. A few private firms have been telerated until now because they have contracts with foreign agencies dealing with war materials,

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because they are better organized than existing government agencies. Some of these firms are Gama (Cdanska Agencja Horska i Asekuracyjna -- Danzig Ocean Security agency), Atom, Nawigator, Baltyk and Agencja Baltycka. Arms manufacturers from abroad pay the brokers for their services through "Hank Holski" (Lational Bank of Poland). The Bank of Holand receives the payments in foreign currency, but the broker receives his payment in Holish currency from the Bank at the official rate of exchange. (In February 1917 it was 1300 4 to [1.00 U.S.). By trading on the blackwarket the government can take 75% or more of the brokers' profit.

- 5. The export of coment is governed by the CACP (Centralny Zarzad Comentowni Pelskich Central Board for Folish Cement Factories) with a brunch office in Trzeszcz.
- 6. Import of iron one is made through the CAPH (Centralny Larzad Przemyslu Hutniczego Central Poard for Smalting Industry) with main offices in Cliwa, near Danzig. The government agency Paget with its main office in Zo poty, near Danzig, manages the import of lumber. Casoline, oil and grease are products which outer the country through Ulica only. However, a government agency mown as Chill (Centrala Produktow Przemyslu Naftowego Central for Products of Cil Industry) with offices in Danzig, Gdynia and Stettin is set up to import these products.
- 7. The only steamship line is CAL in Edymia located on Swietejanska St., the Edymia-Ameryka Linia (Edymia America Line), which has Polish and British capital investments. The Polish capital in the line is now in the hands of the Polish Government.
- 8. Shipping traffic in Danzig and Caymia decling with foreign countries, including UNEAL and repatriation shipping, is about 30% of its pre-war traffic strength. Foreign trade has been taken over by the government. Private importers and exporters new have insignificant positions in the government agencies. Folish Government authorities allow private enterprises only if the firm or individuals in these firms have capital in a foreign bank and if this capital can be use; for trade to benefit the government. The government reserves the right to select the product or article to be imported. Persons who apply for passports to travel into foreign countries where they have capital and want to invest in foreign and demestic trade are carefully screened by the UB and the firm they represent must guarantee their return to roland. Few private firms accept this type of bargaining.
- 9. In the autumn of 1946, the government agency known as the Association for Food Commodities made an agreement with a Swedish firm for the export of fruit jam. The first transport consisting of several tons of jum was put in emptied herrian barrels. The Swedish firm refused to accept the herring-smelling jam which resulted in losses for the government and the termination of the agreement.
- 10. CUP (Clowny Urzad Morski) Main Sea Office, located in Mrzeszcz, is directed by Mr. Mowicki, who was appointed to this post by the Ministry of Navigation and Foreign Trade.
- 11. The security of the port is a function of the CUI which designates port quards and the Filitia NOP (Nojsko Ochrony Fogranicza Hilitary Frontier Defense Unit).

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